THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) to (d) The question of reserving a portion of the electricity generated at Central Power Stations for supply to Central Public Sector Undertakings, primarily in the core sector, was referred to a Committee consisting, *inter alia* of representatives from the concerned Organisations, including the State Electricity Boards. The Committee have submitted their report but no decisions have yet been taken on the Committee's recommendations.

Waiting lists for telephone connections in Andhra Pradesh

2964. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons on the waiting list at present for telephone connections at Hyderabad, Visakhapatnam, Vijayawada, Guntur, Tirupati, Warangal, Kakinada, Kurnool, Cuddapah, Eluru and Tenali in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the number of persons on the waiting lists at present in Andhra Pradesh, both in urban and rural areas separately; and

(c) what is the target date to meet the above demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) The number of persons on the waiting list as on 31-10-1988 is given as under:—

1	2
1. Hyderabad	37578
2. Visakhapatnam	2352
3. Vijayawada	5539
4. Guntur	893
5. Tirupati	569
6. Warangal	706
7. Kurnool	6607
8. Cuddapah	228
9. Eluru	169
10. Tenali	107
11. Kakinada	595

(b) the number of persons on the waiting lists as on 31-10-1988 in Urban and Rural areas of Andhra Pradesh are given as under:—

Urban areas	60572
Rural areas	2740

(c) The Seventh Plan objective is to provide telephone connections by 31-3-1990 for an average telephone demand registered upto the period as mentioned below:

1. For Hyderabad-Main Exchanges (MAX I) 30.9.1986
2. For the remaining nine exchanges in Andhra Pradesh (All MAX-I) 1.4.1987
3. For Tirupati Main Exchange (MAX II) 1.4.1988

The remaining waiting list will be cleared progressively during the Eighth Plan period.

Black listing of foreign companies

2965. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any foreign company was blacklisted by his Ministry on the Department of Telecommunications in 1987 and 1988 if so, its name, date when it was blacklisted and reasons therefor;

(b) whether the order for blacklisting was revoked later on and if so, on what date and what are the reasons for revocation;

(c) whether dealings with the blacklisted firms are forbidden following issue of blacklisting order; and

(d) whether dealings with subsidiaries or production companies of blacklisted foreign export firm are allowed by Government, especially when the product to be purchased is the same which leads to blacklisting of the foreign company earlier?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) Business dealings with M|s. Lucky Gold Star International Corporation and its subsidiaries M|s. Gold Star Cable Company and M|s. Kukje Electric Wire Company, Korea were banned on 16-6-87 on account of certain irregularities observed in the one of their tender proposals invited by Department of Telecommunications.

(b) On receipt of representations dated 22-2-88 and 6.4.88 from the affected company regretting the mistakes committed by them, it was decided to revoke the ban on other items of the bid except the disputed item.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

Faulty telephones in Indore Telephone District

2966. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of complaints regarding faulty telephone, have been increasing in Indore Telephone District of late;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for larger number of complaints and delayed response to them by department; and

(c) what steps are being taken to improve the position?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) No, Sir

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Redressal of telephone complaints on holidays

2967. SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in all the telephone exchanges of the country, the supervisory staff such as Junior Engineers, Assistant Engineers and above do not attend offices on Saturdays, Sundays and other holidays resulting in large number of telephone complaints of the subscribers remain unattended particularly those requiring field visits:

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; particularly when the telephone is an essential service; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to ensure redressal of telephones complaints on Saturdays, Sundays, Gazetted Holidays and after office hours?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) No, Sir. The offices of DEs, SDOs, AEs, JEs and Supervisory staff who are in charge of exchanges DTO|CTOs etc. work six days a week. Further, there are instructions that required compliment of staff should be posted on holidays|weekly off days to handle the anticipated traffic.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Telephone network in developed countries

2968. SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that in a number of developed countries the local telephone calls are not charged;